1st March 1947]

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, the Hon. Minister has not given the answer to my question. I asked whether it was Mr. Manicka Naicker who was responsible for the tampering of accounts and books and other documents. If that were not so, how did the Government consider that the punishment was not sufficient for him? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I do not think you need worry this Minister any further about this question. I am sure he has not gone into all the records."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether on the request of Mr. Manicka Naicker the Collector advanced the enquiry from 16th to 11th for the mere reason that the Collector was going to hand over charge on the 16th? Is it justifiable for a Collector to favour a certain person by advancing the enquiry and finishing the case? "

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Are we to understand that the present Ministry is not responsible for what had taken place and they will not be responsible for what takes place in future? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Certainly not."

Assessment of sales tax by Assistant Commercial Tax officers.

* 69 Q.—SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the present Commercial Tax Officer, South Arcot, has instructed the Assistant Commercial Tax Officers that each of them should secure a fresh assessment each day and increase the tax of the present assessees and that consequently the Assistant Commercial Tax Officers are each day assessing to tax people who have no assessable turn-over and people are unnecessarily harassed?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—" The answer is in the negative."

Power to grant poverty certificates to members of the Legislature.

* 70 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government propose to empower the members of the Legislature to grant poverty certificates to poor students who deserve concession in respect of school fees?

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" This question was considered by Government before and they came to the conclusion that it is advisable to restrict the power to issue certificates to persons over whom the Government has official or departmental control."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Does the Hon. Minister think that gazetted officers are in a position to know the conditions of people with regard to poverty and riches and is it possible for ordinary people to approach these persons? "